

**REMARKS**

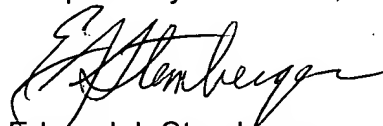
Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. Claims 1-4, 11, 13-18 and 20-30 remain pending.

Claims 1-4, 11, 13, 14, 18, 26 and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Pasadyn et al. and claims 15-17, 20-25, and 28-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pasadyn et al. in view of Cullen et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed since Pasadyn et al. should not be applied as prior art to this application.

In accordance with MPEP 706.02(b), the priority claim has been perfected since the first paragraph of the present application includes a specific reference to the prior Provisional Application No. 60/216,284 filed on July 6, 2000. The priority date precedes the filing date of Pasadyn et al. (August 8, 2000). Thus, Pasadyn et al. should not be applied as prior art to the claims. Therefore, the rejection should be withdrawn.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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